

TWO WOMEN DEAD IN HARLEM FIRE; LEAP KILLS MAN

FINAL
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U. S. ASKS VIENNA, "WILL PLEDGE BE KEPT?" AMERICAN SHIPS NOW IN "BARRED" ZONE

COMMOTION IN THE SENATE AS NEW ROCKAWAY LAND BILL IS HOTLY ASSAILED ON FLOOR

Senator Mills Introduces New Measure That Is Sent to Rest in Committee.

SEN. BROWN'S COUP.

Introduces a Substitute That Will Pass—Thompson Raps Mayor Mitchell.

Special From a Staff Correspondent of The Evening World.

ALBANY, Feb. 20.—Senator Ogden Mills today introduced by unanimous consent a substitute for the Walker bill to permit the City of New York to transfer the lands necessary to complete the Rockaway fortifications. The new bill limits the power of the city to the immediate Government purpose and takes out from under the American flag the personally conducted real estate operations that had hidden there until revealed by The Evening World.

During the heat of a discussion that attended the introduction of the bill, hundreds of Rockaway rosters, headed by a blaring brass band, paraded up and down in front of the Capitol and created quite a hullabaloo. Many of the rosters flocked into the building and added to the excitement.

In presenting the bill, Mr. Mills made an extended speech. It is understood that there will be no emergency message to speed the new bill. In the Assembly Mr. Malone introduced a bill identical with the Mills Senate bill.

After a running fire of debate that brought as its climax a sensational withdrawal of the Mills bill, it was reintroduced and was advanced to third reading. It then went to the Committee on Affairs of the City of New York. The objection of Senator Lawson prevented its immediate passage.

WITHDRAWAL WAS SENSATIONAL AND DRAMATIC.

The withdrawal was sensational and dramatic. It came while Senator Robert F. Wagner was attacking the bill as one intended to profit a private corporation which the Senator said was attempting to hold up the hands of the National Government.

Senator Mills broke into the debate with this statement: "In view of the Senator's position on this bill I will withdraw it."

White with rage, Wagner turned on the interrupter. "That is cheap!" he exclaimed, shaking his finger at Senator Mills. "It is undignified even for you to take such a course."

"I state for the information of the Senator," said Senator Mills "that I refuse to introduce a bill which charges in a gold brick wrapped in the American flag and favorable to a private corporation and that he accepts only under duress."

The declaration threw the Senate into a furore.

Senator Wagner continued his speech in which he was attacking the Rockaway Pacific Corporation for unpatriotically delaying the Government, while it dickered for lands for which he said it charged the Government \$4,400 an acre while it paid the city but \$1,900 for the same lands including the cost to the company for filling in the lands.

Senator Wagner insisted that Senator Mills should not withdraw his bill and the Senator, by unanimous consent, reintroduced it. It then went

ANOTHER N. Y. SHIP OFF TO WAR ZONE DESPITE SINKINGS

Mar Baltico Follows Rochester and Orleans—Three Liners Arrive Here.

The Kerr Steamship Line, the first American company to defy the "barred zone" edict of Germany by sending the Rochester across the ocean, in company with the Orleans, this morning despatched the Spanish steamer Mar Baltico from South Brooklyn for Bordeaux.

News was received at the company's office, No. 17 Battery Place, of the sinking of its chartered freighters Dalmata and Mar Adriatico, but the loss failed to alter the company's plans. Officials said today that all the ships that could be chartered and loaded would follow those which have been started.

The Fabre liner Patria arrived today with 1,727 passengers, of whom 1,654 were third class. The Pierce Line steamer San Guglielmo, flying the Italian flag, came in from Genoa and Naples stocked with spaghetti, olive oil and fruit, and the Lloyd-Brasileiro reached here from Para and Central American ports with cargo and thirty-five passengers.

Acting on advice, the nature of which was not revealed, the Standard Oil Company has resumed the voyages of its tank steamers, which were interrupted by the issuing of the German submarine order. The Wico sailed from this port yesterday for Copenhagen. The Communipaw was to have sailed from Bayonne today, but is delayed for twenty-four hours by a leaky tank.

The Pioneer sailed Saturday for Copenhagen and the Headton, which put into Halifax in the first week in February under wireless orders, has resumed her voyage to Rotterdam by way of Bergen, Norway.

A cable was received at the offices of the French line here today saying the steamship La Touraine sailed from Bordeaux at 1 o'clock yesterday morning for New York.

Despite these arrivals and departures of ships, the German U boat edict has so disarranged sailings from northern European ports and compelled the lines to stow so much coal for such emergencies as roundabout evasion of submarines that the usual spring immigration to this country has been markedly restricted.

Bookings from these ports for the landing of passengers here in the thirty days beginning Feb. 28 amount to \$5,000, but it was said today that at least three months will be required to bring this number of immigrants to New York.

The Italian steamer Giuseppe Verdi, which was to have left at noon today for Genoa with passengers and freight, did not get away, and according to her agents, McDonnell and Tejada, her sailing has been indefinitely postponed. The Dante Alighieri, a sister ship of the Verdi, is at Genoa and is expected here about March 1 with a large number of passengers.

Whitman and Sunday Review Reported Buffalo, N. Y., Feb. 20.—Reviewed by Gov. Whitman and his military staff, by Billy Sunday and many prominent Buffalonians, the Seventy-fourth Regiment returned home this afternoon after eight months on the Mexican border.

THREE LIVES LOST IN A HARLEM FIRE; ONE WOMAN DYING

Man's Skull Fractured by Leap From Third Story—Expires in Hospital.

TWO SISTERS VICTIMS.

Woman, Found on Knees in Closet, Attributes Her Rescue to Prayer.

Three persons lost their lives, another is dying and eight others had narrow escapes from death today in a two-alarm fire, caused by a defective furnace, which swept through the three-story and basement furnished room house at No. 23 East One Hundred and Twenty-eighth Street. One woman who was saved attributes her good fortune to prayer. The firemen found her on her knees saying her beads with the fire raging around her.

The dead are: Mrs. Addie Craver, thirty-three years old, her sister, Mrs. Elizabeth Graves, forty-two, and Herbert Kelly, thirty-three, who jumped from a third story window and died in Harlem Hospital of a fractured skull. The sisters were widows and were employed in the shirt-waist department of a thirty-fourth Street store.

Miss Pella Farley, sixty years old, is dying from burns in the Philanthropic Hospital, One Hundred and Twenty-eighth Street and Fifth Avenue.

The house is conducted by Max Barlow and his wife, Catharine, who, with their two children, Lillian, twelve years old, and William, four, had rooms on the rear of the ground floor. Since the cold spell about ten days ago the two children have been sleeping in the dining room.

William Kelly and his wife, Margaret, parents of Mrs. Barlow, had a room on the second floor front. Miss Farley occupied the other room on that floor. Mrs. Craver and her sister, Mrs. Graves, lived in a room on the third floor front. Directly adjoining was the room occupied by Herbert Kelly, while on the rear of the top floor lived Miss Nellie Slater, forty years old, a music teacher, Cornelia Plamex, an aged colored cook, slept in the kitchen on the ground floor.

Just before 7 o'clock this morning the colored cook awoke and found the door of the kitchen on fire. She rushed into the dining-room and roused the two children and then started to the upper part of the house to warn those above of their danger.

Firemen say the colored woman made the mistake of leaving the kitchen door open, the result being that the flames shot into the hallway and ignited the staircase, an open skylight directly over the stairs furnishing a draft, which carried the fire through the building with a rush.

Firemen found Miss Farley unconscious in her room and a few minutes later came across the bodies of Mrs. Craver and her sister. No one having seen Miss Slater, the music teacher, the firemen expected to find another body when they entered her room on the rear of the top floor. A search of the room failed to reveal her and the firemen thought she had jumped to the yard, the crowd expressed its sympathy in loud wailing. The men prevail in the women and children crowd hysterically.

During the half hour that they stood about the building they heard again and again that the city officials would have to help them. Several, in high pitched voices, shouted: "We are starving. Our children are starving. We demand that the

MOTHERS GAIN STRENGTH FROM Father John's Medicine—which has 30 years of success for colds and coughs and as a body builder.—Adv.

Hello Ha-wai-ia! Here's the Latest Idea in Women's Bathing Suits



Honolulu was brought closer to our shores when Mrs. Myron Reynolds of Garden City, Long Island, started society at Palm Beach by appearing in a Hawaiian bathing costume.

HUNGRY MOTHERS STORM CITY HALL; FOOD RIOTS GROW

Babies in Arms, 300 East Side Women Appeal to Officials Against High Prices.

The spectacle of three hundred east side mothers, most of them carrying babies, storming the City Hall and demanding relief from the present excessive food prices was the principal feature of a day marked by rioting and disturbances in the thickly populated section of three boroughs as a result of the inability of the people to buy many of the necessities of life.

Many women were arrested and large quantities of onions and potatoes, the prices of which particularly aroused the wrath of the protesting housewives, were confiscated and destroyed.

Following a lively meeting of protest in Seward Park on the lower east side, which had been preceded by attacks on pushcarts and grocery stores in that section, the women and children formed in line and made their way to City Hall. In their wake marched as many men, and the crowd attracted by the procession filled the piazza in front of the building.

On learning that Mayor Mitchell had an engagement which would keep him in another part of the city most of the day, the crowd expressed its disappointment in loud wailing. The men prevail in the women and children crowd hysterically.

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(Continued on Second Page.)

BILL TO WIPE OUT 100,000 SPIES IS PASSED BY SENATE

Sixty Votes Cast for Administration Measure, to Only Ten Against.

SEEKS GREATER POWER.

Lansing Urges Passage of Bills Enabling the President to Enforce Neutrality.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 20.—The administration's spy bill passed the Senate today by a vote of 60 to 10.

The bill has been pressed with all speed in view of the proximity of foreign complications and the anxiety of the Department of Justice.

The country, it has been frequently declared by Government officials, has been virtually honeycombed with agents of foreign Governments since the outbreak of the European war and the Department of Justice has been powerless to act through lack of adequate law. It was declared in the Senate yesterday that there are 100,000 spies in the United States.

"The bars have been practically down," Senator Pomeroy said today, "to any spy or conspirator who came to our shores. They have been practically free to walk upon our Government reservations, into navy yards, radio stations and even forts and vessels."

The bill as passed takes in fourteen separate measures suggested by the Department of Justice and was put through virtually unchanged.

The spy section makes it a crime, punishable with two years' imprisonment or \$10,000 fine, to approach or enter any place connected with the national defense to unlawfully obtain information or to make photographs, blueprints, plans, etc., of things connected with such defense or to dispose of a code or signal book or model or anything else of national defense value.

Where these things are done for a foreign government in time of peace, "whether recognized or unrecognized" by the United States, the penalty is increased to twenty years' imprisonment and in time of war to life.

Four other bills have been drawn by the Department of Justice which give the President greater power in enforcing neutrality. Secretary Lansing and Assistant Attorney General Turner appeared before the Senate Judiciary Committee today and asked that they be passed.

One of the bills would make it lawful for the President to employ the land and naval forces "to detain any vessel, public or private, foreign or domestic, in order to enforce compliance with or to prevent the violation of the obligations of the United States under the law of nations." It also would empower the President to employ such forces "to enforce any or all other obligations imposed upon the United States by the law of nations," by treaties or conventions or by statutes of this Government.

Other measures urged upon the committee would provide for punishment of willful interference, attempted interference or conspiracy to interfere with exportation of articles from the United States to foreign countries; punishment for manufacturing or counterfeiting coin or paper securities; and to be known by an unregistered holder of bonds of insurance in a country with which the United States are at peace, and for prosecution of alien or other than diplomatic or consular officers or agents who might act in the United States as the agent of a foreign Government without notification to and consent of this Government.

The committee took no action on the bill and will consider them further next Thursday.

DEMAND MADE ON AUSTRIA FOR A FINAL STATEMENT ON SUBMARINE WARFARE

U. S. Ambassador Penfield Presents a Note Asking Whether the Pledge Made in Ancona Case Has Been Changed or Withdrawn.

EMPEROR CONFERS WITH THE FOREIGN MINISTER

LONDON, Feb. 20.—Frederic C. Penfield, American Ambassador at Vienna, is said by Reuter's Amsterdam correspondent to have delivered to the Austro-Hungary Foreign Minister an aide memoire requesting clear and final information as to what standpoint the Austro-Hungarian Government has assumed regarding submarine warfare, and whether the assurance given on the occasion of the Ancona and Persia incidents are to be regarded as changed or withdrawn.

(After the sinking by an Austrian submarine of the Italian steamship Ancona in November of 1915, occasioning the loss of the lives of several Americans, the Austro-Hungarian Government sent a note to the United States in which it said:

"The Imperial and Royal Government can also substantially concur in the principle expressed in the very esteemed (American) note that private ships, insofar as they do not flee or offer resistance, may not be destroyed without the persons aboard being brought into safety.")

Central news despatch from Zurich today says:

"The Austrian Emperor has given a long audience to Count Czernin, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, who previously had a conference with the American Ambassador."

WASHINGTON, Feb. 20.—Ambassador Penfield is acting under explicit instructions from the State Department to state its position regarding the intensive submarine warfare inaugurated by Germany. Such an instruction was sent to the Ambassador more than ten days ago, and it is possible that it has been reinforced in view of the delay in securing the response.

Unofficially, it has developed that the State Department is reluctant to sever diplomatic relations with Austria, desiring to maintain as long as possible some official relations with at least some of the Central Powers.

A break with Turkey and Bulgaria is regarded as certain to follow a rupture with Austria, and deep concern for the welfare of the many citizens in the Near East is one of the influences that have affected the State Department's policy in holding off.

QUICK ACTION BY WILSON IF U. S. SHIPS ARE SUNK

Orleans and Rochester Are Now in the Danger Zone and Government Is Anxious.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 20.—Two American steamers, the Orleans and the Rochester, which cleared from New York Feb. 16 for Bordeaux, France, are in Germany's "forbidden area" today, and upon their fate will probably hang the question of war or peace.

Both ships carry American crews. They are unarmed, but carry cargoes declared by Germany to be contraband.

Administration circles are waiting eagerly for news of the vessels, the more so since the German press, almost without exception, was unanimous a week ago in asserting that the steamers would meet the fate of all merchantmen entering the danger zone.

The line of action to be followed by America has been determined upon, and full respect to the consequences has been paid. What the Government will do was pretty clearly indicated in the President's speech to Congress on Feb. 3, when he said he might have to return to ask authority to use whatever forces he saw fit to protect American shipping and rights.

Whether Germany is sincere in her

WEATHER—Cloudy; colder to-night.